

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	FdA Early Years and Childhood Studies
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	FdA Early Years and Childhood Studies
Named Exit Awards	CertHE Early Years and Childhood Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 80 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Relevant employment or voluntary placement for the duration of the course (if working in the early years, must have appropriate level 3 Early Years Educator Award). Any offer of a place will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft Campus)
UCAS Code	

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the **FdA Early Years and Childhood Studies** course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2025/26 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

FdA Early Years and Childhood Studies is an exciting programme aimed at those students working, or wishing to work, with children aged 0- 11 years. Links between theory

development. The changing view of childhood will also be studied as well as the implications of safeguarding

children will be examined and how this influences positive outcomes for all children in a constantly changing landscape. Applications are welcome from those working within the childcare sector and from students who may not have childcare experience but wish to enter this field. Employment or a voluntary placement required. For those students who

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [_____](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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3. Critically evaluate the interrelationships between political, economic, cultural and ideological contexts in national and global contexts.
4. Critically evaluate a range of psychological, sociological theories and research with
5. Demonstrate the ability to critically reflect upon own practice and the limits of evidence informed practice.
6. Demonstrate the development of the skills of an independent learner.
7. Qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment and progression to other qualification requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks

- Early Childhood studies 2022
- Characteristics Statement. Foundation Degree 2020

Course Structure

Foundation Degree of Arts Early Years and Childhood Studies comprises modules at levels 4

